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ICC To Develop Sustainable Energy Policy

The Illinois Commerce Commission today posted to its website questions related to the development of a sustainable energy policy, as called for Governor Rod Blagojevich last month.

In his February 11, 2005 letter to ICC Chairman Ed Hurley, Governor Blagojevich proposed a renewable energy portfolio standard that includes procurement requirements for electric utilities and alternative retail energy suppliers, eligibility criteria for resources that can be used to meet those requirements, cost recovery provisions, energy trading options and compliance measures. The Governor said, "The time has come for Illinois to take a bold step toward energy independence" by increasing investment in energy efficiency and boosting reliance on homegrown sources of renewable energy.

Commissioner Robert Lieberman, who will lead the process to consider the Governor's sustainable energy initiative, invited all interested stakeholders to respond to the questions related to the Governor's proposal. "Our charge from the Governor is to develop policies that reduce energy costs to Illinois citizens and businesses, while creating greater economic and environmental benefits," Lieberman said. "I look forward to working closely with all of those interested in this process to reach a mutually agreeable plan for moving forward – we intend to move quickly."

The questions are posted on the ICC website at icc.state.il.us. Responses to the questions must be filed with Harry Stoller at hstoller@icc.state.il.us no later than Wednesday, March 9th.

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